

1916



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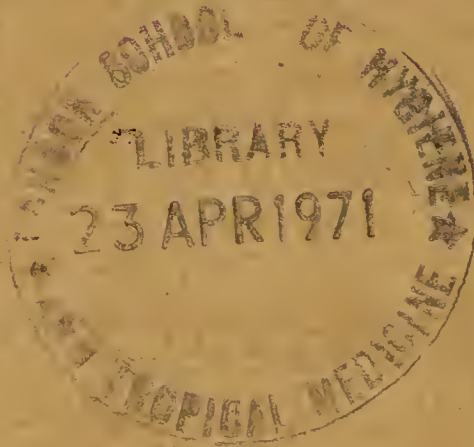
Annual Report

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
BOROUGH OF WALSALL,
FOR THE YEAR 1916,
AND OF THE
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

WALSALL LITHOGRAPHIC CO., PRINTERS,
VICARAGE PLACE.

1917

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REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH
OF THE
BOROUGH OF WALSALL,
DURING THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31st, 1916,

BY

HARRY SHORE, M.D., B.S.,

Diploma in Public Health, University of Durham.

Medical Officer of Health for the Borough.

School Medical Officer and Police Surgeon.



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HEALTH COMMITTEE

OF THE
WALSALL CORPORATION.

ALDERMAN WALKER, Chairman.

ALDERMAN CLARE, Vice-Chairman.

THE MAYOR
(Councillor SLATER, J.P.)

ALDERMAN WILLIAMS

COUNCILLOR LYNCH

„ O'MEARA

COUNCILLOR SHELLEY

„ SOMERFIELD

„ WARD

„ WARNER

Meet on the Third Monday in each Month, at 3 p.m.

Medical Officer of Health.

HARRY SHORE, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

Tuberculosis Officer.

JAMES A. M. CLARK, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Analyst.

E. W. T. JONES, F.I.C.

Assistant M.O.H.

ROLL, M.B. B.Ch.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

ARTHUR THOMAS HUBBLE,

Cert. as Inspector of Nuisances and as Meat Inspector.

Assistant Inspectors.

ERNEST F. B. A. MINER (No. 1 District) Cert. I.N.

and as Meat Inspector.

ALBERT LYON (No. 2 District) Temporary.

FRED TURNER (No. 3 District) Cert. I.N.

Health Visitors.

MISS W. M. SADLER, Cert. H.V., and C.M.B.

J. PARR, H.V. and C.M.B.

N. PODMORE, Cert. I.N. and C.M.B.

Clerks.

F. BIRD.

N. BROOKIN.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR 1916.

<i>Area in Acres</i>	...	...	...	7,358
<i>Estimated Civil Population, June 1915</i>	...			92,045
<i>Estimated Population, 1916--</i>				
<i>For calculating birth rate</i>	...			97,384
,, ,, <i>death rate</i>	...			89,506
<i>Population per Acre</i>	...	...		12·78
<i>Number of Houses in Borough</i>	...			19,954
<i>Number of Persons per House</i>	...			4·74
<i>Rateable Value</i>	...	...	...	£291,991
<i>Id. in the £ yields for General Purposes</i>				£1,080
<i>Number of Marriages in Walsall Regis-</i>				
<i>tration District</i>	....	...		1,160
<i>Birth Rate</i>	...	...	...	25·82
<i>Death Rate</i>	...	...	...	16·38
<i>Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births</i>	...			112·12
<i>Zymotic Death Rate</i>	...	...		1·26
<i>Respiratory Death Rate</i>	...	...		2·94
<i>Total Deaths from Diarrhœa</i>	...	...		52
<i>Infantile Mortality from Diarrhœa per</i>				
<i>1000 Births</i>	...	...	...	15·50
<i>Death Rate from Phthisis</i>	...	...		1·73
<i>Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis</i>				0·17
<i>Percentage of Uncertified Deaths</i>	...			0·00

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALSALL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of Walsall.*

MR. MAYOR, MISS NEWMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my Annual Report on the Health, Vital Statistics and Sanitary Conditions generally of the Borough for the year 1916.

In accordance with the spirit of the times, it is condensed so far as has been thought desirable.

The outstanding feature throughout the Country has been that of the conservation of child life. Under the heading of Infant Welfare Centres, I advance some views on the subject, if they do not meet with general approval, they at least have the advantage of first hand knowledge of facts. Unfortunately it does sometimes happen that those who excel in academic knowledge of this subject, are just as lacking in practical acquaintance with it.

Last year I ventured to raise the question as to what extent the psychological element played in consequence of abnormal times on Infantile Mortality, it is gratifying to record that these views were also subsequently advanced by other Medical Officers of Health.

The Infantile Mortality has fallen to 112·12 from 149·46 in 1915.

Considerations of space prevents me from more than alluding to current factors that have much bearing on health, the cost of living and discontent of inequality of sacrifice.

I have derived much instruction from hearing the diverse views from all walks of life locally, to mention two extremes, the person who ekes out a bare existence on the losses of paying "Excess War Profit" taxes, and regards the working classes and poor as belonging to the exalted category of "Munition Workers," with the opulence which such an expression conveys to him, and the poor, who regard the War as having given spontaneous birth to a tribe of Barrabas for whose benefit the War is waged, and who feel (and to my mind rightly also) that they most unfairly bear the brunt of the sacrifices it has brought in its trail. However this may be, they are considerations that must disorganise an accurate estimate of Public Health. Again under the stress of circumstances, much curtailing of matters that minister to the comfort and well-being of the community has inevitably ensued, and must be borne in mind in surveying the past year.

I would, in particular, point out how much more support and consideration under the current conditions should be given to the Sanitary Inspectors, some most unfair criticism and depreciation has been made of the Officials; radical or drastic cures cannot by force of circumstances be effected to many nuisances, and to be figuratively patching up defects, more frequent supervision is required, and this entails extra work and attention; I feel as the Head of the Department that this point is not adequately recognised and appreciated.

At all times, the Official reformer, (i.e., the Sanitary Inspector) is up against vested interests in the form of the person upon whom is the onus for abatement of nuisances, but to hear his status and work belittled and decried, is most conducive to following the line of least resistance, and is entirely inimical to the interests of the community generally.

I have to again acknowledge the kind consideration shown me by the Members of the Council, and record my highest appreciation of the support and co-operation of the Chief Inspector and Staff throughout the year, particularly in view of the many difficulties which have arisen through the strenuous times in which we live.

The character of my work has much altered to suit prevailing conditions, little publicity is occasioned thereby, but in so many varied matters and especially in connection with soldiers (there being no Military Medical Officer here) my advice is sought and given; exception may be taken that this is outside my sphere of duties, but I feel as the aggregate is made up by the units, I am, if erring, at least on the right side.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

HARRY SHORE, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population.

The estimate of the population, revised for 1916 by the Registrar-General, is used for the calculation of the death rate and birth rate in this Report.

For the death rate the population is estimated as 89,506, and for the birth rate, 97,384. (I may point out that these figures act adversely in each case, the birth rate being lowered, while the death rate is increased).

Table giving the population at the last three census :

1891	1901	1911
71,791	86,440	92,130

Marriages

There is a decrease in the number of Marriages this year, 1160 taking place, whilst last year 1395 were contracted.

Births.

The number of Births registered in the Borough for the year was 2515, of which 1,272 were males and 1,243 were females. This gives a rate of 25·82; last year we had 2,566 births, with a rate of 27·22.

Eighty of these births were illegitimate.

The average birth rate for the last five years is 28·62.

The following table gives the number of births registered in the Borough:—

		Male	Female	Total
1st quarter	...	305	308	613
2nd	„	333	325	658
3rd	„	311	319	630
4th	„	323	291	614
Totals	...	1272	1243	2515

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 1,451, giving a rate per thousand of the population of 16·21, a decrease on the previous year, when we had 1,596 deaths with a rate of 16·96. If we exclude the number of persons (58) dying in the Borough belonging to other districts, and include (73) those belonging to the Borough dying beyond the Borough, we have a corrected number of 1,466, giving a death rate of 16·38. The average death rate for the past five years is 16·09.

Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages of residents belonging to the Borough.

At all Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards
1466	282	61	69	79	64	179	326	406

Number of deaths in each of the eight Wards, together with their population and death rate.

Name of Ward.	Population	Total No. of Deaths	Rate. per 1000 per annum.
Bloxwich	8572	118	13·76
Leamore	11523	161	13·97
Birchills	14211	272	19·14
Hatherton	9354	137	14·65
Paddock	10645	145	13·62
Bridge	8386	177	21·10
Pleck	14549	203	13·95
Caldmore	16809	242	14·39

This table does not include the deaths of non-residents occurring in the Workhouse or in the Walsall and District Hospital. Residents of the Borough, dying in any of these Institutions, are included, and are each put into the ward in which they resided.

Eleven persons whose deaths are registered in the Workhouse, but of whom no address excepting Walsall could be got, are entered into the tables for the whole district, but could not be classified into Wards. By referring to the table in which the separate death rate for each Ward is given, it will be seen in what particular part of the Borough the highest and lowest death rate occurred.

Birchills Ward has this year the highest, viz.: 19'14, while Paddock Ward with a rate of 13'62 has the lowest death-rate in the Borough.

Coroner's Inquests.

One hundred and thirty-five inquests were held in the Borough during the year.

Infantile Mortality.

The Infantile Mortality is calculated by the ratio of deaths under one year to 1,000 births registered, this year the rate is 112'12. In 1915 the rate was 149'46, in 1914 the rate was 115'92, in 1913 it was 156'75 and in 1912 the rate was 131'64.

The number of deaths recorded was 282, giving us a death-rate per 1,000 of the whole population of 3'15. In 1915 the rate was 4'04, in 1914 the rate was 3'41, in 1913 the rate was 4'69; and in 1912 it was 3'86.

Commenting upon the causes of death, it will be seen that Premature Birth, Atrophy and Debility accounted for 106 deaths; Pneumonia, 25; Bronchitis, 19; Whooping Cough, 19; Diarrhoea and Enteritis, 29.

The rate amongst illegitimate children is 150'00.

TABLE I.

Walsall County Borough.—WHOLE DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1916.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 & un. 3 mths.	3 & un. 6 mths.	6 & un. 9 mths	9 & un. 12 mths	Total deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES—Certified	72	24	20	8	123	35	52	36	36	282
Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Whooping Cough ...	...	1	...	...	1	1	2	5	10	19
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	3
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	4
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	5
Convulsions ...	3	2	1	1	7	2	2	...	1	12
Laryngitis ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis ...	...	1	...	...	1	5	8	5	1	20
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	1	1	1	9	6	9	26
Diarrhoea ...	...	...	2	...	2	1	2	2	4	11
Enteritis ...	...	...	5	...	5	3	10	3	4	25
Gastritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	3
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Suffocation, overlying ...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Injury at Birth ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Atelectasis ...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital Malformations ...	4	...	1	1	6	2	3	1	...	12
Premature Birth ...	47	6	4	2	59	3	1	...	...	63
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus ...	4	6	3	1	14	9	4	5	...	32
Other causes ...	7	8	3	2	20	5	5	4	2	36
Totals	72	24	20	8	124	35	52	35	36	282

Nett Births in the year—legitimate, 2,430; illegitimate, 80.

Nett Deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 270; illegitimate infants, 12

TABLE II.

Walsall County Borough—WHOLE DISTRICT.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1916.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes under One Year of Age divided into
the Eight Wards.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	WARDS.								Total for whole Boro.
	Bloxwich.	Leamore.	Birchills.	Hatherton.	Paddock.	Bridge.	Pleck.	Caldmore.	
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	2	2	2	4	1	4	3	1	19
Diphtheria and Croup ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	3
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	4
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	5
Convulsions ...	—	—	5	1	1	—	3	2	12
Laryngitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Bronchitis ...	2	3	5	3	2	2	1	2	20
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	1	3	3	2	4	2	5	6	26
Diarrhœa ...	—	1	4	1	1	1	2	1	11
Enteritis ...	2	2	10	6	—	3	2	—	25
Gastritis ...	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	3
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Rickets ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Suffocation, overlying ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Injury at Birth ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Atelectasis ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	3
Congenital Malformation ...	1	1	2	2	1	—	3	2	12
Premature Birth ...	3	3	15	6	11	6	11	9	63
Atrophy, Debility, & Marasmus ...	1	2	12	4	2	4	2	5	32
Other Causes ...	3	7	8	3	1	2	2	10	36
Totals ...	17	30	73	32	27	25	38	40	282

TABLE III.

Causes of Death at different periods of Life in Walsall County Borough, 1916,

As furnished by the Registrar - General.

Causes of Death.	Sex.	All Ages.	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	Total all Ages Male and Female.
ALL CAUSES ...	M	757	155	34	40	39	20	96	168	205	} 1470
	F	713	130	26	30	43	44	84	146	210	
1 Enteric Fever ...	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	} 2
	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
2 Small-pox ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	} —
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
3 Measles ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	} —
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
4 Scarlet Fever ...	M	7	—	3	3	1	—	—	—	—	} 14
	F	7	1	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	
5 Whooping Cough ...	M	17	10	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	} 36
	F	19	9	6	3	1	—	—	—	—	
6 Diphtheria and Croup ...	M	10	—	—	3	7	—	—	—	—	} 19
	F	9	—	—	3	5	1	—	—	—	
7 Influenza ...	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	} 6
	F	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	
8 Erysipelas ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	} 2
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
9 Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	M	81	1	—	—	5	5	40	27	3	} 152
	F	71	1	—	2	9	19	25	13	2	
10 Tuberculous Meningitis ...	M	8	2	1	2	3	—	1	—	—	} 16
	F	8	2	—	2	3	—	1	—	—	
11 Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	M	13	1	3	2	4	2	1	—	—	} 27
	F	14	2	1	1	3	2	3	1	1	
12 Cancer, malignant disease ...	M	35	—	—	—	—	—	3	21	11	} 84
	F	49	—	—	—	—	1	4	25	19	
13 Rheumatic Fever ...	M	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	} 6
	F	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	
14 Meningitis ...	M	8	3	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	} 12
	F	4	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
15 Organic Heart Disease ...	M	44	—	—	—	—	1	9	16	18	} 108
	F	64	—	—	—	4	9	12	20	19	
16 Bronchitis ...	M	72	12	5	2	—	—	3	17	33	} 141
	F	69	10	2	1	1	—	1	17	37	
17 Pneumonia (all forms) ...	M	69	14	3	8	2	4	10	20	8	} 127
	F	58	12	10	4	5	1	7	5	14	
18 Other Respiratory Diseases ...	M	10	1	—	1	—	1	2	2	3	} 16
	F	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	
19 Diarrhoea ...	M	34	23	7	3	—	—	—	1	—	} 65
	F	31	23	2	1	—	—	2	1	2	
20 Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	} 6
	F	5	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	—	
21 Cirrhosis of Liver ...	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	} 6
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
21A Alcoholism ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	} —
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
22 Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	M	20	—	1	1	—	2	2	11	3	} 38
	F	18	—	—	—	1	2	6	9	—	
23 Puerperal Fever ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	} 5
	F	5	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	
24 Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	} 6
	F	6	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	
25 Congenital Debility, &c. ...	M	63	62	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	} 115
	F	52	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
26 Violence, apart from Suicide ...	M	36	2	1	5	3	2	9	8	6	} 54
	F	18	1	—	4	5	—	4	3	1	
27 Suicide ...	M	5	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	} 8
	F	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	
28 Other defined Diseases ...	M	212	24	3	3	10	2	15	38	117	} 396
	F	184	15	3	5	1	2	8	44	106	
29 Causes, ill-defined or unknown ...	M	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	} 3
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	

TABLE IV.
WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1916.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									WARDS Nett Deaths at all Ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10										
	All Ages	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	Bloxwich	Leamore	Birchills	Hatherton	Paddock	Bridge	Pleck	Caldmore	Walsall Workhouse	
Enteric Fever ...	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
Small-pox ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ...	13	1	3	6	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	3	2	6	..	1
Whooping-cough ...	35	19	8	7	1	..	..	..	..	2	3	8	4	3	6	6	3	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup	16	..	..	5	11	..	..	..	..	5	1	3	2	1	2	1	1	..	4
Influenza ...	7	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	2	..	..	..	2	1	2	1	1	..	..
Erysipelas ...	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	160	1	2	4	18	24	69	39	3	10	20	21	15	23	19	23	29	..	37
Tuberculous Meningitis	13	4	..	4	5	..	..	..	..	2	2	3	..	1	..	..	5	..	3
Other Tuberculous diseases ...	16	3	2	2	3	4	1	1	..	..	2	4	1	2	2	2	3	..	5
Cancer, malignant disease ...	86	..	..	..	..	..	9	51	26	9	12	10	8	16	11	11	9	..	16
Rheumatic Fever ...	6	..	1	..	..	3	1	1	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	1	1	..	..
Meningitis ...	14	6	2	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	1	1	..	2	3	..	1
Organic Heart Disease	124	..	..	..	6	9	23	46	40	7	18	18	14	12	19	21	15	..	21
Bronchitis ...	132	19	8	3	1	1	4	41	55	12	13	31	12	14	22	11	16	1	14
Pneumonia (all forms)	129	25	14	12	8	5	18	26	21	8	12	21	15	12	12	24	25	..	10
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ..	10	3	1	..	..	..	..	4	2	..	3	4	..	..	..	2	1	..	..
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	52	39	8	3	1	..	..	..	1	2	3	22	8	2	5	5	6	..	..
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	6	..	..	..	3	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	1	1	..	9
Cirrhosis of liver ..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	..	..
Alcoholism ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	38	..	1	1	1	4	7	20	4	4	2	7	1	3	5	11	5	..	2
Puerperal Fever ..	4	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	2
Other accidents and Diseases of pregnancy and parturition ...	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	1
Congenital Debility & Malformation, including Premature Birth ...	106	106	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	6	29	12	13	10	16	15	..	4
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	62	4	1	9	7	5	13	14	9	10	9	10	3	8	3	7	12	..	38
Suicides ...	7	..	..	..	2	..	4	1	..	2	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other defined diseases	418	52	10	9	8	4	25	71	239	38	49	69	32	31	55	54	80	10	95
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All causes ...	1466	282	61	69	79	64	179	326	406	118	161	272	137	145	177	203	242	11	263

Table V.
WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

Vital Statistics of whole district during 1916 and previous years.

YEAR	Popula- tion estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	NETT.		Number	Rate	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1911	92,273	2791	2788	30·21	1518	16·45	50	57	424	152·08	1525	16·52
1912	92,868	2732	2727	29·36	1421	15·30	35	48	359	131·64	1434	15·44
1913	93,477	2800	2786	29·80	1592	17·03	43	55	439	156·75	1604	17·15
1914	94,093	2771	2769	29·42	1383	14·69	43	73	321	115·92	1413	15·01
1915	94,093	2566	2561	27·22	1596	16·96	61	62	381	149·06	1597	16·97
1916	(Birth) 97,384	2515	2510	25·82	1451	16·21	58	73	282	112·12	1466	16·38
	(Death) 89,506											

Area of District in Acres
(exclusive of area
covered by water)

... 7483

Total population at all ages

... 92,115

Total families or separate occupiers

... 18,943

At Census
of 1911



DEATH-RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY during the Year 1916,

As furnished by the Registrar General.

Table showing Death-rates, &c. in Walsall, as compared with England and Wales, 96 Great Towns, 148 Smaller Towns and London.

	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 LIVING.*							RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.				
	All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under one year.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Certified Causes.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Cause of Death.
England and Wales	14.0	0.03	0.00	0.15	0.04	0.16	0.14	0.66	12.47	91	24.2	91.3	7.2	1.5
96 Great Towns, including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000)	14.4	0.03	0.00	0.21	0.04	0.21	0.15	0.53	16.24	99	29.6	91.2	7.8	1.0
148 Smaller Towns (Census Populations 20,000—50,000)	13.0	0.03	0.00	0.14	0.04	0.14	0.15	0.46	10.79	90	16.4	92.5	5.7	1.8
London	14.3	0.02	—	0.19	0.03	0.18	0.14	0.56	15.80	89	45.6	90.1	9.8	0.1
Walsall	15.9	0.002	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.38	0.17	0.67	18.68	112	17.8	95.3	9.2	0.00

*The death-rates for England and Wales are based upon deaths in the whole population and upon an estimated total population of 36,250,000. The birth-rate similarly calculated is 21.6 per 1,000. The death-rates for the towns are based upon civil deaths and estimated civil populations. The birth-rates cannot be stated. In all cases the population used relates to the year 1915.

Table of deaths of infants under one year, with the rate per thousand births during the last ten years, and deaths between 1 and 5 years.

Year	No. of Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1000 Births	No. of Deaths 1 to 5 years.
1906	440	155·72	141
1907	432	151·20	201
1908	427	147·80	186
1909	382	136·80	174
1910	313	114·77	103
1911	424	152·08	146
1912	359	131·64	187
1913	439	156·75	249
1914	321	115·92	141
1915	381	149·06	241
Average for 10 years	391	141·17	176
1916	282	112·12	130

Tuberculosis.

Number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified in each locality with deaths taking place.

	Bloxwich.	Leamore.	Birchills.	Hatherton	Paddock.	Bridge.	Pleck.	Caldmore.	Walsall Workhouse.	Total.
Cases notified ...	49	76	81	39	58	48	74	63	4	492
Deaths ...	12	24	28	16	26	21	25	37	*	189

*Deaths in Workhouse are allocated to the Wards.

Infant Welfare Centres.

For some considerable time there has been a feeling in the Borough that something should be done for the Infants and Mothers by some Authority apart from private enterprise, at the risk of being accused of making invidious distinctions, I feel that the credit should be given to the Mayor (Councillor Slater, J.P.) and Mrs. Dewsbury, a lady guardian, who have led the van of the small body of local enthusiasts, your Medical Officer also has always had a more than sympathetic interest in the poor. Long ago a deputation waited upon the Health Committee in this connection, and eventually its outcome was the establishment of two Infant Welfare Centres, one at Milton Street, the other at Stafford Street. The subject of preservation of Infant lives has been so much before the Public, that any remarks of mine bearing upon it would seem almost redundant, but to quote my Medical friend, Dr. Harris, who has had considerable and lengthy experience of work amongst the poor, "Hitherto some Corporations have looked with extreme solicitude to the dividends which might accrue from their undertakings, but with scant consideration to the dividends from infant lives, these were not of the concrete form, and could not directly go to the relief of the rates, the War has forced such matters into the foreground of urgent consideration and now one sees the spectacle of the swing of the pendulum from selfish causes."

"Municipal undertakings have been known to have incurred heavy losses annually, looking confidently, and assuredly so, to the future, however distant, to recoup their losses, but the heavy annual toll of Infantile Mortality was a matter to some that concerned only the parents and relatives, now there has arisen the compelling thought that the nation cannot afford to lose

these dividends, they must be guarded and they will mature, perhaps come of age, and be good securities or assets against future enemies."

"Self-preservation is the lowest of animal instincts but it is the sole appeal to some."

The aims I had in view were, first and immediate treatment, second, the real and ultimate, educational.

I considered that however favourably one's views might be towards establishing in a small measure a local scheme of State Medical Service, a due regard must be made to avoid a dispensary air at the Centres. The possibilities of the scope of the work must be limited by the desire to concentrate the work, and not to sacrifice quality by aiming at quantity. The advice given in each case must be definite and uniform by whomsoever it was conveyed. Medicinal remedies must occupy a subordinate position to the instruction given.

The attraction of benefits to be obtained gratuitously, always secures a numerous and appreciative audience, whose retention depends upon the continuation of tangible favours.

The difficulties to be faced were many, amongst others avoiding friction with various sources that have hitherto (to a more or less degree) been applied to for the treatment of these babies, and to secure the attendance of the suitable class of Infant, broadly speaking, the elimination of the acute type of disease where the patient requires seeing a Doctor almost daily, such a class cannot be satisfactorily dealt with at a Centre, and also, to avoid our services being used as a makeshift, for various reasons, perhaps mainly from financial ones.

To attract the ideal or desirable cases, no effort has been spared by the Staff, every consideration has been endeavoured to be shown, every semblance to the patients' obtaining Parish Medical Relief avoided, in some instances, stress has been laid upon the fact that if the case is deemed a suitable one, attendance at the centre is a "Burgess Right."

In no self laudatory strain the staff may claim to understand the local peculiarities of the working classes, and to the best of their abilities have striven to adapt their methods and manners to harmonise with and conciliate them. From personal experience, I have always felt that to make any lasting impression, and to be able to lead (for you cannot drive) them in the manner you desire, one must establish an atmosphere of freedom from restraint of confidence, or to quote an oft expressed phrase "Be a person that they feel they can talk to". It is gratifying to record that there is this spirit of friendship felt by the mothers, that we have with every sincerity their interests at heart, and that they can come with confidence and without restraint for such advice and treatment as we can offer.

We have aimed from the beginning to study conscientiously the problem of each patient, feeling that unless it is done in this spirit, it is really futile; it can hardly be realized unless one actually does the work, how easy it is to undertake it mechanically, even though scientifically; with the local and home knowledge which we possess I do protest against some of the criticism we hear second hand as to the lines of our treatment, chiefly I consider it is based upon the lack of knowledge of social conditions, environments and habits, we do the best we can with the materials at our disposal, "we are mortal and cannot command success, we do feel, however we deserve it."

The statistics of attendances, etc., will be found elsewhere in this report on page 23.

It is only fair to state that having practiced in the Borough for so long, I have had considerable advantage over other Medical Officers commencing similar undertakings, this has facilitated matters in one direction, but has taxed the staying capacities of the Staff in others, the attendances during the height of the Summer weather being exceptionally heavy.

Having briefly stated the lines and ideals upon which these Centres have been conducted, the criticism, appreciation, or depreciation must be left to the Public, or rather the mothers of patients who have the experience whereby to judge.

I have heard of Medical Officers who diagnose, treat, and extol their own work, such recalls the old saw of self praise.

However able or extensive the efforts of a Centre may be, the question of environments and the ingrained habits of parents play important parts, in fact may definitely limit the extent to which progress may be made. From time to time we see cases which may be diagnosed as the disease of environments, with the abnormal times aggravating pre-existing social or housing conditions, one feels how helpless a Mr. Micawber would be.

I must express our indebtedness to the Walsall and District Hospital, as also the Union Infirmary for the most material assistance they have rendered to partially solve this impasse.

A Child Welfare Association has been established here and works in co-operation with the Centres, I desire to record my appreciation of the time and labour that has been given by its various members. Garments, sewing, gifts and financial assistance so far as its means have permitted, have been forthcoming to many cases attending the Centres, or otherwise brought to our notice.

Many of its members having expressed a desire to assist by voluntary visiting, I held a class of instruction on the work and visiting was subsequently undertaken.

At each session at the Centres, assistance is given in the work by one or more of these ladies. My hearty thanks are hereby tendered to each of these active participants.

I cannot conclude the comments on this work without paying the highest compliments to the Health Visitors, and particularly the senior one, Miss Sadler, for the utmost assistance they have been, to enable the work to be undertaken to such an extent as it has.

It may read fulsome flattery, but perhaps I alone can adequately appreciate the self sacrifice, unfailing tact, good humour, and sympathetic consideration they have always shown to their cases.

The work is one in which I am most deeply interested, and though strenuous, with my assistants, can assert that the happy conditions prevailing in the undertaking, render possible much good work in this direction.

Health Visitor's Report.

During the year 2,503 births were notified, 1112 of this number being stillborn, of those infants born alive 1197 are males and 1194 females, the number visited being 1689.

The birth visits were distributed as follows :—

	Bloxwich	Leamore.	Birchills.	Hatherton.	Paddock.	Bridge.	Pleck.	Caldmore.	Total.
Ist Visits	212	225	325	204	144	140	276	163	1689
Re-Visits	194	309	581	483	260	457	436	252	2972
Total	406	534	906	687	404	597	712	415	4661

In 38 of the cases visited, the child was found to have died shortly after birth, and of the remainder 245 have since died.

Of the total number who died (283), 102 were weakly premature infants, all of whom died under 21 days from birth, a further number of 42 were also weakly, premature infants, and on visiting it was found also that 31 more had serious congenital defects. Of those who died, 106 were apparently strong and healthy at birth, 41 of which were breast fed and 60 bottle.

When first visited, 1470 of the infants were breast fed and 219 bottle fed altogether, or in part. Of the children who received a second or subsequent visit, a further 261 were found to be bottle fed, making a total of 480 infants who are known to have been artificially fed.

Infant Welfare Centres.

On July 17th, two Welfare Centres were formally opened, one at 28 Milton St. and the other 93 Stafford St., although consultations were commenced at the Milton St. Centre on April 4th.

Each Centre is open two days per week for consultation, Tuesday and Thursday at Milton St. and Wednesday and Friday at Stafford St.

The Infants are Medically examined on Tuesday and Wednesday each week, and on the alternate days instruction in mother craft is given, together with practical demonstration, also simple lessons on home nursing, hygiene, etc. Sewing and mending classes have also been started, and a clothing and thrift club recently added.

During August, the Child Welfare Association was formed, since when, a great deal of voluntary help has been given at both centres, the sewing, clothing, and thrift clubs being in the hands of voluntary workers, two also acting as recording secretaries, and others assisting with the weighing of the infants, etc. The Association has also supplied 13 home visitors.

The total attendances at both Centres being 3433, for the 8 months, of which number 1833 were medically examined, the ages being as follows:—

	Under 6 months.		6-12 mhs	1-2 years.		2-3 yrs.	Pre Natal.		Total.	
	M.	A.	M. A.	M.	A.	M	A	M.	A.	M. A.
Milton St.	957	1063	152 313	103	157	59	83	5	30	876 1646
Stafford St	543	934	186 445	170	309	58	73		26	957 1787
Total	1500	1997	338 768	273	566	117	156	5	56	1833 3433

Those who were medically examined are marked M. Infants are brought twice monthly to the Council House to be weighed, the first and last Monday in each month, and necessitous cases are medically examined there before ten o'clock each morning, 505 having attended during the year.

Midwives' Act, 1902.

During the year. 44 Midwives notified their intention to practice, 8 of which live out of the Borough. Of the 36 residing in the Borough, 27 are untrained, having gained admittance to the roll by virtue of having been in practice one year prior to the passing of the Act. Of the trained midwives, 4 women have recently been assisted considerably by the Society for promoting the training of midwives, to whom we are greatly indebted, these women being unable to provide sufficient means for their training.

During the year one midwife died and two have discontinued practice on account of ill-health, the total number therefore of practicing midwives living in the Borough is 34.

Sixty-five per cent. of the total births were attended by midwives only, as against 50 per cent. in 1915. A considerable increase is noticeable in the number of midwives who are engaged to attend as maternity nurses, in fact, a further 50 per cent. of the remaining number were attended by midwives in this capacity.

Thirty-three cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and 4 Puerperal Fever have been notified, investigated, and reported upon. In the cases of Ophthalmia, 23 were notified by Medical men only, 6 by Midwives and 4 by both, 26 cases were very slight and cleared up quickly, 6 requiring long treatment. No cases of loss of sight being known.

The work of the midwives continues satisfactory. Since the appointment of the third Health Visitor (Miss Podmore) in September, the supervision has been divided into three districts, consequently more direct information with regard to the detail of their work is possible.

Health Visitors' Record of Visits.

Birth Visits.	Mid-wives' Visits.	Inquests	Other Visits.	Visits re death of child.	Total Visits.
4661	239	5	201	50	5625

Birth Enquiry.

First Visits.	Re-Visits.	Pre Natal.	Wasted Visits.	Still-birth enquiry.	Un-notified birth enquiry.
1689	2972	123	191	47	37

Midwives' Visits, Etc.

Mid-wives' Visits.	Inspections.	Interviews.	Disinfected	Ophthalmia	Puerperal.	Sanitary defects reported.
239	72	196	8	33	4	17

Four midwives were disinfected as a precautionary measure only.

Midwives' Notifications.

Medical help	Still-birth.	Death of Child	Ophthalmia.
165	34	3	10

The causes of sending for Medical help are as follows:—

Mother.		Child.	
Abnormal Pregnancy	5	Deformities ..	3
Complicated Labour	70	Phimosis ...	4
Ruptured Perenium ..	14	Inflamed and dis-	
Rise of Temperature...	6	charging eyes ..	18
Unsatisfact'y Condit'n	12	Feebleness & Premat'y	23
		Unsatisfact'y cond't'n	10
Total	107	Total	58

WINIFREDE SADLER,

Senior Health Visitor.

TABLE VI.

WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

**RETURN of the Number of Cases of Infectious Disease
reported to the Medical Officer of Health during
the year 1916 and of Deaths from the Diseases notified.**

				Cases notified	Deaths registered
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera, Plague	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)				77	16
Erysipelas	...	...	...	59	2
Measles	...	...	...	389	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	322	13
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	..	7	2
Relapsing Fever or Continued Fever			...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	4	4
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	...	...	..	3	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	403	160
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	...	..	...	89	29
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	40	...

TABLE VII.
WALSALL COUNTY BOROUGH.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1916.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases Notified in whole District							Total Cases Notified in each Locality										Total cases removed to Hospital.	
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65												65 and upwards
Small-pox
Cholera (C) Plague (P)
Diphtheria(including Membranous Croup)	77	1	17	45	11	2	...	1	20	7	8	8	6	3	9	...	...	9
Erysipelas	59	2	1	4	14	19	...	5	1	12	9	7	3	7	12	1	...	...
Measles	389	20	86	226	35	20	...	...	53	29	37	42	38	40	104	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	322	3	79	207	25	7	...	...	13	34	29	29	26	66	110	...	...	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	7	...	...	1	4	1	...	...	3	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever (R)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever (C)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	4	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	40	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	11	1	9	7	1	1	1	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	403	3	8	137	69	137	...	4	37	66	71	34	36	61	52	4	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	89	6	16	37	12	17	...	...	12	10	10	5	15	12	14	11	...	...
Totals ...	1393	75	209	657	171	206	65	10	143	173	165	132	152	129	192	301	6	10	

Isolation Hospitals:—Enteric Fever Hospital, Hospital St., Walsall; Small-pox Hospital, Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich
Diphtheria cases requiring Tracheotomy are treated at Walsall and District Hospital, Walsall, a retaining fee of £20 per quarter is paid to the Executive Committee.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES RETURN OF VISITS, &c.

Dr. H. SHORE,
Medical Officer of Health,
WALSALL.

Dear Sir,

In accordance with the provisions of the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Order 1910, I herewith furnish you with a tabular statement containing the following particulars for the year ended December 31st, 1916.

1. The Number and Nature of Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	Total.
Inspections of Dwelling-houses under Housing, &c. Act ..	73	4	28	105
District Inspections	3637	4223	3929	11789
Inspections of Workshops (not in- cluding Bakehouses) ...	56	24	15	95
Inspections of Factories ...	37	14	13	64
„ Homes of Outworkers ...	70	147	198	415
„ Slaughter-houses ...	707	335	901	1943
„ Bakehouses ...	69	80	43	192
„ Fishyards ...	199	3	29	231
„ Dairies ...	239	196	230	665
„ Houses let in Lodgings ...	152	100	—	252
Samples of water ...	1	2	—	3
Samples under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts	52	74	44	170
Canal Boat Inspections... ..	—	—	—	26
Visits to infected houses ...	861	1190	694	2745
Fumigations after notifiable disease	89	155	95	339
Fumigations after Phthisis & Cancer ...	36	57	35	128
Drain tests	29	20	23	72
Re-inspections of work for abate- ment of Nuisances	2118	1317	1596	5031
Total visits and Inspections ...	8425	7941	7873	24265

2. The Number of Notices Served during the Year.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District	No. 3 District.	Total.
Informal	426	407	469	1302
Statutory	62	79	91	232

3. Result of Services of such Notices.

	No. 1 District	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	Total.
Number of nuisances abated ...	416	427	426	1269
Notices not complied with ...	26	36	44	106

Yours obediently,

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE,

January 31st, 1917.

Inspector of Nuisances.

School Medical Report

For the Year Ended 31st December, 1916.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We herewith submit our Annual Report for the year 1916.

We have followed the scheme outlined by the Board of Education and the results are given under the headings suggested by them.

(a). General review of the hygienic conditions prevalent in the schools.

Generally speaking, the poorest schools in Walsall from the point of view of hygienic conditions, are situated in the poorest districts. Poor children whose health is already debilitated by their life in a vitiated atmosphere and by insufficient or unsuitable food attend schools, which in some respects are no more hygienic than the houses from which they come.

The evil effects of bad lighting has been especially brought out since the opening of the Eye Clinic. In the opinion of your School Medical Inspector, the general weakness and lack of muscular tone in these children soon becomes apparent in the delicate muscles of the eyeball, by the onset of Squint. Bath Street School is a veritable manufactory of eye defects. Apart from being the cause of defects, the moral influence of defective hygiene upon the child must not be lost sight of. The teachers lessons upon the subject will bear little fruit if the school buildings and their surroundings are the very antithesis of the ideal.

We have experimented with dust-laying preparations as a substitute for more frequently washing the school-room floors. In this direction there has been a decided improvement.

(b). General description of the methods adopted for the organization and supervision of Medical Inspection.

The officers employed are as follows :—

1. The Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Harry Shore), who is School Medical Officer, and is responsible generally. Dr. Shore is also Inspector of Mental Defectives.

2. The School Medical Inspector (Dr. Carroll), who examines most of the school cases, keeps records, furnishes reports and devotes his whole time to the work. Dr. Carroll is also School Refractionist.

3. Three School Nurses, each of whom is responsible for one-third of the school area.

Children of a certain age period are selected for examination and the Medical Inspector visits each school in turn until all the children at this age have been examined. At least three days notice of an intended visit are given to the Head Teacher, who then obtains the heights and weights of the children to be examined, enters these on the cards and notifies the parents so as to afford them an opportunity of being present at the exact time of the examination. Notes are sent to parents, drawing their attention to defects revealed by the examination, and advising them to obtain the necessary treatment. The nurses keep a record of these defects, and on subsequent visits to schools, inspect these children, with a view to finding if the defects have been remedied.

The number of notices sent to parents concerning defects has been 16·9% as compared with 21·3% in 1915 and with 10·2% in 1914.

(c). General statement of the extent of Medical Inspection carried out during the year.

The examination of school children has included those entering and leaving school and children of the intermediate period. The total number of inspections is smaller than that of last year, inasmuch as there were no arrears to make up. The work done at the Inspection and Treatment Clinics has been very considerably increased.

TABLE I.

Number of children inspected 1st January, 1916 to 31st December, 1916.

	Entrants.	Intermediate	Leavers.	Total.
Age	5, 6 & 7	Group. 8	12	
Boys	1179	986	925	3090
Girls	1113	961	834	2908
Totals	2292	1947	1759	5998

Results of examinations of all ages.

	1916		1915	1914	1913
No. of children examined	5998	%	8016	3268	3872
			%	%	%
No. of parents present	2472	41·2	40·7	42·1	45·9
Unvaccinated	2405	40·1	24·9	28·9	25·5
Dirty Heads	309	5·1	7·1	8·2	9
Body Vermin	17	·3	·4	·1	·4
Defective Teeth	4887	81·4	77·9	65·6	65
Enlarged Tonsils & Adenoids	897	14·9	18·4	6·6	6
Strabismus	105	1·7	1·7	1·9	2
Defective Sight	535	8·9	12·7	9·3	10
Defective Hearing	155	2·5	2	4·4	8·9
Ear Discharge	63	1·05	1·1	·9	1·8
Heart Disease	52	·8	·0	·3	·4
Bronchitis	802	13·3	5·4	·09	·5
Phthisis	76	1·2	1·3	5·8	5
Rickets	62	1·03	·6	1·2	1·8
Ruptures	19	·3	·4	·3	·5
Goitres	35	·6	·7	2·5	2·9
Tuberculosis	6	·1	·2	·1	·1
Excluded	8	·13	·1	·7	·7
Blepharitis	38	·7	1·1	1·3	1·6

Defects other than those tabulated, found amongst the children inspected during the year 1916.

Defects.	INFANTS.		8 YEARS.		LEAVERS.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Anæmia	78	85	31	52	12	27
Eczema	11	5	3	7	1	1
Ichthyosis	6	3	3	2	2	2
Defects of Speech	3	1	7	2	9	7
Scabies	7	2	2	3	5	2
Ringworm	10	2	4	3	1	1
Enlarged Glands	3	0	3	0	1	0
Psonasis	0	1	1	3	1	3
Corneal Uncers	2	1	1	0	1	1
Chorea	2	1	2	0	3	2
Impetigo	0	6	0	3	0	0
Corneal Nebulæ	1	1	2	4	1	3

Attendance of Parents or Guardians.

Age Period.	No. of Children inspected.	No. of Parents present.	Percentage of Parents present.	
Infant Boys	1179	562	47·6	47·6
Infant Girls	1113	585	52·5	51·1
Boys 8	986	380	38·5	41·4
Girls 8	961	421	43·8	45·9
Boys 12	925	232	25	29
Girls 12	834	292	35	42·8
Totals	5998	2472	41·2	40·8

The total percentage of parents present shows a slight increase as compared with that of last year. That this is so, notwithstanding the number of mothers employed on military work, is distinctly encouraging. The attendance of parents at the examinations is most important, inasmuch as they can be more strongly impressed with the necessity of treatment, they can be questioned with regard to the family history of disease,

they can be advised as to the hygiene of the home in cases of infection, and can be assisted in choosing a suitable career for "leaving" children with physical defects.

Dirty Heads.

This year records a satisfactory drop in the percentage of dirty heads. When it is remembered that at the end of 1908, the percentage was 27·6 and that it had fallen to 8·2% in 1914, 7·1% in 1915 and 5·1% in 1916, the wonderful work of the past eight years in this direction will be appreciated. As is to be expected girls are much more often affected with this condition than boys.

Analysis shows the following figures:—

Ages.	Boys.	1915.	Girls.	1915.
Entrants (5, 6 & 7)	— %	·4%	5·5%	7·2%
8 	·4 ,,	·3 ,,	10·9 ,,	19·1 ,,
Leavers (12) ...	·1 ,,	·3 ,,	16·4 ,,	17·4 ,,

When a verminous case is discovered at school, our procedure is to notify the parent under Section 122 of the Children Act. This empowers us to cleanse the child if the parent fails to do so after 24 hours following the receipt of the notification. This cleansing is carried out at the School Clinic, and when necessary the hair is cut. It is not often that we find it necessary to adopt the latter course as the affected children, finding we have this power, are very willing to save themselves this humiliation and quickly get themselves cleansed.

Vaccination.

Table giving, according to age and sex, the percentage of children unvaccinated.

Ages	Boys.	Girls.
Leavers (12) 	15·2	14·2
Intermediate (8) 	38·2	35·6
Entrants (5, 6 & 7) 	64·6	50·5

Table comparing the Infant Returns of the last five years:—

	Infants Boys,	Infant Girls.
1912	18 %	19 % unvaccinated.
1913	33 „	25·5 „ „
1914	44·3 „	38·6 „ „
1915	54 „	55·1 „ „
1916	64·6 „	50·5 „ „

Hearing.

Hearing was tested with the forced whisper test.

The common causes of deafness were:—

1. Cerumen.
2. Perforation of the Tympanic Membrane.
3. Adenoids.

Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids.

The figures given under this heading include all enlargements, mild and severe. The great majority of these would yield to very simple methods of treatment. The number of cases in which operation was required is 141. In early cases of Tonsillar Enlargement, before the glands have become invaded by fibrous tissue, we have found in the Clinic that a weak solution of Adreneline Chloride causes them to diminish considerably in size.

Tuberculosis.

During the year, Dr. Clark has continued to do admirable work for children suffering from this disease. Many children who seemed likely to develop the disease or who were already in the incipient stage were given a country holiday, through the kindness of the Children's Holiday Committee. The provision of an open air school is a question for consideration under this heading. With such an Institution, the holidays might be considerably prolonged, and at the same time the work of the Education would continue.

Treatment and Inspection Clinics.

These Clinics were held at Field Street School on Thursday afternoons and at Bradford Street for two sessions daily.

The cases seen at the Clinics were sent :—

1. By the Head Teachers.
2. By the Parents.
3. By the School Attendance Officers.
4. By the Nurses.
5. By the Committee.

Mr. H. N. Grove, L.D.S., devoted three afternoons a week to Dental work. He contributes a Special Report on the work done.

Cases of Aural Discharge and minor diseases of the eye are seen daily. The eye cases include acute Conjunctivitis, Phlyctenular Conjunctivitis, Marginal Blepharitis, Strumous Keratitis. In cases of Phlyctenular Conjunctivitis, after bathing with Boric Lotion, yellow oxide of Mercury (2 grs to the ounce) is introduced into Conjunctival Sac. In acute Conjunctivitis, the same treatment is followed unless there be much exudation of pus when Argyrol is used. Marginal Blepharitis is treated by means of Sodium Bicarbonate lotion and yellow Oxide of Mercury Ointment. Errors of Refraction are in all cases tested by Retinography. After the examination, those children who can read are asked to attend again in 14 days, when they read the test-type with the aid of the prescribed lenses.

In the books in use in our Infant Schools, the spacing between the individual letters seems to be inadequate. When letters are very close together, even though they be of large type, it is difficult for young children to see each as a separate entity. In connection with sewing lessons, one of our teachers was good enough to adopt coarse thread of a greenish hue and a dark green material.

The School Medical Inspector found that under these circumstances, children learn to sew quite as quickly and without the eye-strain so common in children who use fine thread and a highly refracting material.

The Teacher's Report is as follows:—

Teachers find absence of eye-strain. Children always say they like to sew on the green and they have been given grey calico occasionally to afford opportunity of judging. Very coarse needles do not answer well as they require too much driving power from the child. The Head Mistress extended the idea to knitting by using very large wood knitting needles. Good results accrued much earlier than heretofore and children enjoy their knitting. There have not been any fresh cases of errors of refraction. The green material lends itself to a more attractive set of exercises than ordinary calico and affords scope in colour training.

Cases of Strabismus are treated by correction of Errors of Refraction and by a shade being worn over the fixing eye.

Aural Discharge is treated by syringing with Perchloride of Mercury.

The total number of attendances made at the Clinic during the year is 6,730. There were 25 cases of Strabismus, 88 of Ringworm, 101 of Scabies, 122 of Otorrhœa. In no case of Ear Discharge has it been found necessary to recommend operation. The discharge invariably cleared up with the effective syringing.

The Clinic contains the following rooms:—

1. Dental Room, containing a Dental Chair, Cabinet, Etc.
2. Ophthalmic Room, with the necessary apparatus for Retinopathy.
3. Room for the Treatment of General Diseases.

4. Waiting Room.
5. Recovery Room.
6. Bath Room.

Rooms 1, 3 and 6 are supplied with hot and cold water. The shower-bath is so arranged that when necessary, medicated water can be used as a "shower" in the treatment of skin diseases.

The Work of the Nurses.

The duties of the Nursing Staff include :—

1. Assisting the Medical Staff at the schools and at the Inspection and Treatment Clinics.
2. Assisting the School Dentist at the Schools and at the Dental Clinic.
3. They pay visits to the schools, with the object of finding out if defects already detected have been remedied, and of searching for verminous and other parasitical conditions which might be a source of contamination.
4. They treat minor ailments under the supervision of the Medical Inspector.
5. They make out After-Care lists, keep lists of excluded cases, etc., etc.
6. Pay home visits.

Returns of the School Nurses for 1916.

District		Children seen	Notes to parents.	Dressings.	Home Visits.	Days with S.M.I.	Days with S.M.O.	Days with Dentist.	Days in Clinic.	Days in Office.
N. Walsall	...	13972	1186	106	451	78	—	10½	36	7½
S. Walsall	...	14620	1467	109	231	78	—	35	19	7
Bloxwich	...	15766	2688	215	335	32½	17	10½	33	6½

Provision of Meals.

The year records a drop in the number attending the Feeding Centre, a drop which is explained by the almost general increase in wages and by the absence of unemployment. The Bloxwich and Croft Street Centres were closed in May, there being then no need for the former, while the few children attending the latter were transferred to the Bradford Street Centre. The number of individual children who have received meals is 90. The total number of meals supplied is :—

Breakfasts 8445

Dinners 7915

The heights and weights of children receiving meals are periodically recorded and the teachers supply us with the information as to the effect upon the mental condition. The improvement in the physique is obvious even to the casual visitor to the Centre, but the mental change in children formerly regarded as dull, into bright, alert, and intelligent beings, is in some cases startling.

THE EDUCATION OF DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

Blind Children.

Six blind children are receiving instruction in Special Schools, while arrangements are being made for three others to go.

Deaf and Dumb Children.

Nine children are receiving instruction in Special Schools.

Physically Defective Children.

In all cases where possible, provision is made for these children to receive instruction. Suitable chairs, boots, and leg irons have enabled many children to attend the ordinary Elementary Schools.

The Deaf and Dumb children who, having completed their courses, have left the Special Schools are employed :—

- 1 boy at Munitions.
- 2 boys at Boot-making.
- 1 girl at Stitching.
- 1 girl at Laundrywork.

The Blind children who, having finished their courses, have left the Special Schools, are employed :—

- 2 boys at Basket-making.
- 1 boy as Newsagent.
- 1 girl as Masseuse.
- 1 girl at Canvassing.

During the year 21 chronic cases have been transferred from the care of the School Nurses to the District Staff of the Victoria Nursing Institution. 654 visits have been paid to them. They comprise such ailments as Eczema, Abscesses, Scalds and Burns, etc. Many thanks are due to Miss Holloway, the Lady Superintendent, for her kindness in allowing the transference of these children.

The After-Care Committee Reports :—

No. of cases treated	...	...	...	61
No. of cases in which treatment was promised				92
No. of cases in which treatment was refused				17
No. of cases in which nothing has been done				37
				<hr/>
				207
				<hr/>

Upwards of 100 pairs of Spectacles have been provided.

During the year, the Committee's activities have been further increased by the inauguration of a fund for providing necessitous children with boots.

In conclusion, we would like to thank all those who contributed to the efficiency of the medical work. Our thanks are particularly due to the Chief Attendance Officer and his Staff for the unfailing readiness with which any information was supplied, to the teachers for much extra work ungrudgingly performed, to our own Staff for their loyal support, and to the Acting Secretary and his Staff for their ever-ready co-operation.

HARRY SHORE, M.D., D.P.H.,

School Medical Officer.

PATRICK E. CARROLL, M.B., B. Ch., B.A.O.,

School Medical Inspector.

**TABLE SHOWING CONDITION OF CHILDREN
EXAMINED.**

Ages		Entrants (5, 6 & 7)				8 Years.				Leavers (12)			
Total Number inspected	5998	Boys.	Girls.	Total	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total	%
No. Inspected	...	1179	1113	2292		986	961	1947		925	834	1759	
Clothing.													
Good	...	1129	1081	2210	96.4	852	879	1731	88.9	841	800	1641	93.2
Fair	...	41	29	70	3	104	75	179	9.1	70	26	96	5.4
Poor	...	9	3	12	.6	30	7	37	1.9	14	8	22	1.3
Footwear.													
Good	...	1083	1046	2129	92.2	843	835	1678	86.1	815	750	1565	88.9
Fair	...	31	27	58	2.5	61	66	127	6.5	41	33	74	4.2
Poor	...	65	40	105	5.3	82	60	142	7.3	69	51	120	6.8
Head.													
Clean	...	1179	1051	2230	97.2	982	856	1838	94.4	924	697	1621	92.1
Nits and Pediculi	—	—	62	62	2.8	4	105	109	5.8	1	137	138	7.8
Body.													
Clean	...	1178	1112	2290	99.9	983	956	1939	99.3	833	919	1752	99.6
Verminous	..	1	1	2	1	3	5	8	.4	6	1	7	.3
Nose and Throat.													
No defect	..	1024	976	2000	87.0	843	795	1638	84.1	780	683	1463	83.1
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	...	155	137	292	12.8	143	166	309	15.8	145	151	296	16.8
Eye.													
No defect	...	1160	1096	2256	98.4	853	811	1664	85.4	768	670	1438	81.7
Strabismus	..	19	17	30	1.6	17	21	38	1.9	16	15	31	1.7
Defective Vision	...	—	—	—	—	116	129	245	12.6	141	149	290	16.5
Ear.													
No disease	..	1156	1084	2240	97.7	929	923	1852	95.1	881	807	1688	95.9
Deafness	..	11	15	26	1.1	41	30	71	3.6	36	22	58	3.2
Otorrhœa	...	12	14	26	1.1	16	8	24	1.2	8	5	13	.8
Teeth.													
Sound	...	198	195	393	17.1	144	142	286	14.7	218	214	432	24.5
Less than 4 dec'y'd	...	418	345	763	33.3	473	445	918	47.1	495	459	954	54.2
More	..	563	573	1136	49.6	369	374	743	38.1	212	161	373	21.2
Heart.													
No Disease	...	1173	1108	2281	99.5	975	949	1924	98.8	917	824	1741	98.9
Diseased	...	6	5	11	.5	11	12	23	1.1	8	10	18	1
Lungs.													
No Defect	...	914	868	1782	77.7	873	835	1708	87.7	860	787	1647	93.6
Tuberculosis	...	10	18	28	1.2	13	—	13	.6	7	11	18	1
Bronchitis	...	255	227	482	21	100	126	226	11.6	58	36	94	5.3
Rickets.													
No Disease	...	1163	1165	2268	98.9	971	954	1925	98.8	914	830	1744	99.1
Marked Disease	..	16	9	25	1	15	7	22	1.1	11	4	15	.8
Tuberculosis.													
Non-Pulmonary	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No Disease	...	1175	1112	2287	99.7	986	961	1947	100	924	834	1758	99.94
Diseased	...	4	1	5	.3	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	.05



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES

for the Borough of Walsall,

for the year ended December 31st, 1916.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit to you a Report for the year 1916 giving particulars of the work performed under your direction by the Inspectorial Staff of the Health Department.

The District Inspectors and Clerks have performed their duties well during the year and here I would like to acknowledge the large amount of work they perform.

In conclusion, I beg to tender to the Committee sincere thanks for their continued support and help in the performance of my duties.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE,

Mem. of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association,
Inspector of Nuisances.

Health Department,

Council House, Walsall,

February 3rd, 1917.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

MADE DURING THE YEAR.

No. of dwelling-houses examined as to their Sanitary conditions under the Housing, &c. Act ..	105
„ District Inspections	11789
„ Inspections of Workshops	95
„ „ Factories (with regard to Sanitary conveniences)	64
„ Inspections of Homes of Outworkers ...	415
„ „ Slaughter-houses	1943
„ „ Bakehouses	192
„ „ Fishyards	231
„ „ Dairies, or Cowsheds, or Milk-shops	665
„ „ Houses Let in Lodgings ...	252
„ „ work proceeding for abatement of nuisances after notice ..	5031
„ Visits to houses in which Infectious Disease occurred	2745
„ Samples of Water obtained	3
„ „ under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts	170
„ Canal Boats Inspected	26
„ Fumigations after notifiable Disease ...	339
„ „ „ Phthisis, Cancer, &c. ...	128
„ Drain Tests	72
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Total recorded visits	<u>24265</u>

No. of Complaints received	132
„ Nuisances abated	1269
„ Cases of Infectious Disease notified including Tuberculosis	1393

Table 1

Number of Nuisances and other matters visited and reported by the Inspectors.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
Foul drains, water closets, privies and ashpits ...	178	235	211	624
„ sinks and wastes...	7	22	8	37
„ urinals ...	—	1	—	1
„ manure pits ...	1	—	1	2
„ ditches or cesspools ...	—	—	4	4
„ rain water cisterns ...	2	5	—	7
Offensive accumulations of refuse	27	8	7	42
Animals, &c., so kept as to be a nuisance ...	19	18	26	63
Water-closets or privies improperly fouled ...	136	98	177	411
Nuisance arising from emission of foul Gases ...	—	1	—	1
Dwelling-houses needing repairs ...	58	24	54	136
Dwelling-houses having defective spoutings ...	23	37	27	87
Dwelling-houses in a dirty state ...	1	4	7	12
„ or parts thereof over- crowded ...	9	11	11	31
Dwelling-houses having stagnant water in cellar ...	—	3	—	3
Dwelling-houses not having sufficient water closets or ashpits ...	6	6	3	15
Dwelling-houses not having sufficient drains ...	—	2	—	2
Dwelling-houses without a proper supply of drinking water ...	—	1	—	1
Workshops needing limewashing & cleansing ...	2	1	1	4
Workshop needing repairs to roof...	1	—	—	1
Backyards needing paving or re- paving ...	—	7	—	7
To limewash houses let in lodgings	6	5	—	11
Carried forward ...	476	489	537	1502

Table 1—*continued.*

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
Brought forward ...	476	489	537	1502
To limewash cowsheds (postcards to occupiers) ...	25	11	42	78
„ furnish lists of outworkers ...	7	13	7	27
TO BOROUGH SURVEYOR.				
Building or wells apparently in an unsafe condition ...	16	16	13	45
Defective spoutings discharging on to footpath ...	7	9	6	22
Insufficient water supply at dwelling-houses ...	—	4	7	11
Insufficient closet accomodation at workshops ...	—	1	—	1
Buildings erected without plans being submitted ...	1	2	—	3
To cleanse ash pits ...	—	—	—	7414
Total ...	532	545	612	9103
No. of notices on books 31/12/15 ..	40	30	36	106
No. of nuisances and other matters reported during the year ...	402	433	434	1269
No. of informal notices served during the year ...	426	407	469	1302
‡ No. of statutory notices served during the year ...	62	79	91	232
* No. of notices not complied with December 31st, 1916 ...	26	36	44	106
No. of nuisances abated ...	416	427	426	1269
‡ A notice may include several nuisances or other matters.				
* The notices not complied with included viz.				
Nuisances ...	3	15	15	33
Housing repairs ...	8	11	12	31
Insufficient closets, &c. ..	7	4	14	25
Other matters ...	8	13	4	25

Table II.

Sanitary Work in compliance with notices.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of privies converted into water closets	2	9	2	13
New drains (yards in length) ...	215	106	80	401
No. of drain traps	29	8	1	38
„ ventilating shafts	11	3	2	16
„ inspection chambers	16	4	4	24
„ new pans *in water closets ...	27	25	46	98
„ new traps in water closets ...	16	16	11	43
„ water closets repaired	34	25	9	68
„ privies repaired	—	—	24	24
„ ashpits repaired	—	3	11	14
„ ashpits roofed	—	2	1	3
„ urinals repaired	2	—	—	2
„ yards paved or repaved	6	7	—	13
„ drains cleared	85	71	92	248
„ water closets cleared	74	104	78	256
„ new sanitary sinks	4	6	3	13
„ sinks fitted with waste pipes ...	10	12	5	27
„ sink, bath, lavatory waste or rain pipes disconnected from sewer	3	1	—	4
„ new water closets	4	2	—	6
„ new soil pipes	3	—	—	3
„ new ashbins	35	26	15	76
„ new wash-houses	4	—	—	4
„ wash-houses repaired	2	3	1	6
„ cellar drains disconnected	—	—	1	1
„ privies demolished & removed ...	—	—	2	2
„ ashpits „ „	3	11	4	18
„ water closets „ „	3	—	—	3
„ intercepting traps	3	—	—	3
„ new connections to sewer	4	—	—	4
„ water closets having flushing cisterns provided	13	3	8	24
„ manure pits repaired	1	—	1	2
„ sinks repaired	—	2	2	4
„ *includes Pedestals	14	—	3	17

Table II—*continued.*

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
DWELLING-HOUSES REPAIRED AND RENOVATED THROUGHOUT	2	4	—	6
„ houses having roofs or spoutings made good	64	32	37	133
„ houses cleansed, coloured and re-papered by owners ...	3	1	6	10
„ ditto by occupiers ...	—	1	—	1
Total ...	69	38	43	150
OVERCROWDING.				
No. of houses in which the number of inmates was reduced ...	5	5	15	25
„ houses vacated	3	4	—	7
Total ...	8	9	15	32

Table III.**Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act 1909.****Inspections, &c. under the Act.**

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of houses found to be reasonably fit for human habitation ...	63	—	27	96
„ houses having defects for which notices were issued	4	4	—	8
„ houses referred to the Medical Officer of Health as unfit for human habitation ...	—	—	1	1
Total ..	73	4	28	105

Unfit Houses.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL
Represented by the Medical Officer of Health as unfit for human habitation and for which a Closing Order was made	—	—	1	1
„ houses demolished voluntarily	—	8	—	8

The house closed is No. 17 Penfold Bloxwich, and the eight houses demolished voluntarily were Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, Freers Yard, George St. and Cottage Rear 35 Vicarage St.

Table IV**Samples of water submitted for analysis.**

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of samples taken :—				
South Staffordshire water ...	1	1	—	2
Well water ...	—	1	—	1
Total ...	1	2	—	3

The samples of the South Staffordshire Company's water were bacteriologically examined and were found to be unsatisfactory at the time of sampling. The well water was found by the Borough Analyst to be unsafe for drinking.

District Inspection.

This work has proceeded steadily throughout the year, a portion of each ward has been inspected, the number of houses visited being, viz. :—

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
	3637	4223	3929	11789

Table V

TRADES—Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Each cowshed is limewashed at least twice during the year.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of persons registered during the year as cow-keepers or milk-sellers ...	9	13	7	29
„ cow-keepers on register ...	12	4	23	39
„ milk-sellers ...	61	98	55	214
„ Total ...	73	102	78	253
„ milking cows kept ...	218	75	174	467
„ inspections ...	239	196	230	665

Bakehouses.

Each Bakehouse is lime-washed at least twice during the year.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of bakehouses in use ...	14	30	18	62
„ „ registered as factories ...	4	9	4	17
„ inspections ...	69	80	43	192

Slaughter-houses.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL
No. of registered slaughter-houses in use 31/12/16 ...	6	5	6	17
„ licensed slaughter-houses in use 31/12/16 ...	7	7	9	23
Total ...	13	12	15	40
No. of Slaughter - house licenses issued (for one year) ...	6	7	9	22
„ inspections ...	707	335	901	1943

Fish Yards.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL
No. of fish yards ...	4	1	1	6
„ inspections ...	199	3	29	231

Workshops.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of inspections of workshops ..	56	24	15	95
„ factories ..	37	14	13	64
Work carried out in compliance with notices, viz :—				
No. of rooms lime-washed and cleansed ...	22	2	1	25
Other nuisances abated, Factories and Workshops }	7	9	—	16
HOMEWORK.				
No. of visits to outworkers ...	70	147	198	415

Table VI**Unwholesome Food Destroyed.**

TUBERCULOUS.

BOVINE	18 Carcases & all organs,	2 hind quarters.
	6 Fore-quarters,	10 Heads, 2 Shoulders.
	3 Necks,	1 Brisket, 3 Skirtings.
	51 sets Lungs,	9 sets Intestines. 20 Livers.
	14 Mesenteries,	& 34 other organs.
PIGS	3 Carcases & all organs.	
	8 Heads,	Trimming from Necks, &c. 67lbs.
	13 sets Fry,	8 other organs

OTHER DISEASES, UNSOUND, &c.

BOVINE	1 Carcase & all organs,	8 pieces Beef,
	4 Heads,	20 sets Lungs, 39 Livers,
	19 other organs,	& 255 lbs weight of Imported Tripe.
VEAL	1 Carcase & all organs.	
PIGS	6 Carcases & all organs,	and several pieces of Pork,
	3 organs.	
SHEEP	2 Carcases & all organs,	$\frac{1}{2}$ shoulder Mutton,
	9 organs.	
RABBITS	379.	
TOMATOES	964 lbs. weight.	APPLES, 5 pots.

CANNED GOODS.

FISH	27 tins,	FRUIT 26 tins,
PRESERVES	3 Jars,	CONDENSED MILK 1 tin.

In five cases seizures were made and Justices' Orders obtained
 In the other cases the food stuffs were surrendered voluntarily
 on inspection.

Table VII

Magisterial Proceedings.

Act under which Proceedings were taken.	Nature of Offence.	No. of Persons Summ'ned	Remarks.
Walsall Corporation Act 1890 Section 60	Water Closets, &c. used in common, in a filthy condition for want of proper cleansing	6	3 were fined 5/- each 1 was „ 2/6 1 dismissed 1 withdrawn
Public Health Act, 1875	Exposure in the public streets of persons suffering with Diphtheria	3	each fined 10/-
ditto	Diseased Meat (2 offences by same 3 persons)	3	(1) { 1 conviction fined £10 2 adjourned sine die (2) dismissed
ditto Milk and Cream Regulations	Selling milk containing boric acid	4	2 convictions £10 and £5* 2 withdrawn
Public Health Act, Byelaws for Houses let in lodgings	Dirty Courtyard, W.C. &c.	1	fined £5 & 6/- costs on three summonses
Sale of Food and Drugs Acts	Selling Watered Milk	4	1 conviction *included in fine for milk containing boric acid 3 cases fined £5, £1 and 5/- and 15/6 costs respectively
ditto	Selling Milk deficient in cream	1	fined £2 and £1 6 0 costs
Midwives Act	Uncertified woman acting as a midwife	1	withdrawn after adjournments.

Table VIII

Infectious Diseases.

Nine hundred and one cases of infectious disease were notified from January 1st, 1916 to December 31st, 1916.

	No. 1 District.	No. 2 District.	No. 3 District.	TOTAL.
No. of visits to infected houses ...	861	1190	694	2745
„ houses fumigated by Inspectors after Infectious disease ...	89	155	95	339
„ fumigations after Phthisis, { Cancer, &c.	36	57	35	128
No. of infected houses, Dec. 31st, 1915	10	12	9	31
„ Infected houses Dec. 31st. 1916				
{ Scarlet fever	4	12	4	} 30
{ Diphtheria	1	1	1	
{ Measles	3	1	3	

No. of persons supplied with brushes	...	1241
„ „ „ lime	...	1579

Number of Notices sent to Schools respecting Infectious Diseases in houses from which children attend School, January 1st, 1916 to December 31st, 1916.

NAME OF SCHOOL	No. of Notices sent re Infected Houses.	No. of Notices sent, Houses free from Infection.
Bath Street	12	3
Blakenall	13	11
Bridge	37	7
Butts	29	14
Caldmore	11	3
Chuckery	16	11
Centenary	11	9
Croft Street	22	14
Elmore Green	37	14
Field Street	9	6
Hillary Street	61	36
Leamore	24	8
National (Bloxwich)	18	9
North Walsall	16	6
Palfrey	67	33
St. Andrews... ..	7	4
St. John's, Pleck	6	3
St. Matthew's	17	3
St. Patrick's Roman Catholic	11	6
St. Peter's Roman Catholic (Blox- wich)	18	7
Tantarra Street	21	12
Wesley (Ablewell Street)	18	13
Whitehall	46	18
Whitehouse Street	18	10
Wisemore	16	12
Wolverhampton Road	20	21
Others	83	33
Total	659	326=985

Notices to Sunday Schools of Infected Houses	...	403
„ Medical Inspector of Schools	...	537
Total	...	<u>985</u>

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Report showing number and result of analysis of samples and proceedings taken, during the year ended December 31st, 1916.

Description of Article Analysed.		Total number of samples.	Number certified as genuine.	Number certified as adulterated.
Milk	...	85	70	15
Preserved Cream	...	2	2	—
Cream	...	1	—	1
Butter	...	38	38	—
Cheese	...	5	5	—
Lard	...	13	13	—
Cocoa	...	1	1	—
Coffee	...	9	9	—
Self Raising Flour	...	3	3	—
Baking Powder...	...	5	5	—
Camphorated Oil	...	3	3	—
Olive Oil	...	2	2	—
Total		167	151	16

Number of Formal Samples	...	82
Number of Informal Samples	...	85
Number of "Appeal to Cow" Samples		3
Total		<u>170</u>

**Administrative Action in regard to Samples
reported against.**

**LEGAL PROCEEDINGS INSTITUTED UNDER THE SALE OF
FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.**

No.	Name of Article.	Identification number given to sample and date of purchase.	Result of Analysis.	Amount of Fine.	Amount of Costs.
1	Milk ...	21 Apr. 5/16	6% deficient in cream.	40/-	26/-
2	Do. ...	28 Apr. 28/16	8% added water.	5/-	15/6
3	Do. ...	135 Oct. 29/16	12% "	£1	—
4	Do. ...	136 Oct. 29/16	6% "	£5	—

Proceedings under Milk and Cream Regulations.

5	Milk ...	113 July 26/16	containing 0.031% Boric acid ...	£10	—
6	Do. ...	114 July 26/16	containing 28% added water and 0.26% of Boric Acid ...	£5	—
7	Do. ...	95 May 31/16	0.02% Boric Acid ...	—	From Shopkeepers supplied by Dairyman from whom Samples 113 and 114 were taken. Summonses withdrawn.
8	Do. ...	97 May 31/16	0.01% Boric Acid ...	—	

LIST OF ADULTERATED SAMPLES FOR WHICH LEGAL
PROCEEDINGS WERE NOT INSTITUTED.

Name of Article.	Identification number given to sample and date of purchase.	Result of Analysis.	Course adopted.	Remarks.
Milk	51 Apr. 18/16	9% deficient in cream	Further Sample ob- tained whole- sale dairy- man on May 5	} See sample 62 ...
Do.	62 May 5/16	11% "	Requested County In- spector to obtain sam- ples in course of delivery from farmer	} Samples obtained by County In- spector & Farmer prosecut'd at Wed- nesbury, June 27th 1916 Case dismissed ...
Do.	58 May 4	7% "	From small re- tailer	} Farmers milk sampled May 17 see sample 72 ...
Do.	59 May 4	7% "	do.	}
Do.	72 May 17	7% "		} "Appeal to cow" made. Health Com- mittee considered circumstances and resolved "no prose- cution" ...
Do.	115 July 26/16	0.067% Boric Acid		} Taken as control test samples from shopkeepers sup- plied by dairyman from whom sam- ples Nos. 113 & 114 were taken (see legal proceedings)
Do.	116 July 26/16	0.006% "		}
Cream	66 May 14/16	0.19% "		} Vendor's explana- tion as to absence of label accepted

The Analysis of "Appeal to Cow" Samples again demonstrated the part played by the long interval (viz.: 16 hours) between evening and morning milking, compared with the shorter period of 8 hours between the morning and evening's milking, in effecting a variation in the amount of fat, the morning's sample having 2·99 per cent. of fat, while the evening's sample from the same herd had 4·4 per cent. of fat.

It is very essential that every endeavour be made to ensure milk being kept up to the standard, otherwise its value as a food is seriously impaired.

The retail charge for milk being practically a standard price throughout the country, a very unfair competition is set up between the producer who seeks to provide a thoroughly good article, and the one who is content to obtain quantity at the expense of quality.

An enactment making it an offence to sell milk below the standard, while not inflicting any great hardship on cow-keepers would afford protection to the users of milk.

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE,
Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Health Department,
Council House, WALSALL,
Jan. 1st, 1917.

Canal Boats Acts.

Copy of Report made to the Local Government Board,
January 1st, 1917.

Report of the Inspector appointed under the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, for the year ended December 31st, 1916.

The Inspector visits the Canal several times weekly in different parts of the Borough.

Name of Inspector :—ARTHUR THOMAS HUBBLE.

Address :—Health Department, Council House, Walsall.

Boats.

Number of Boats inspected	...	...	26
Number of Boats conforming with Acts and Regulations	...	...	22
Number of Boats with one or more infringements	..	..	4

Occupants.

Number of men on Boats inspected	...	...	36
Number of women on Boats inspected	...	...	16
Number of children on boats inspected under 5 years of age			7
Number of children on boats inspected, girls over 5 and under 12, boys over 5 and under 14 years	...	...	19

The total registered accommodation on the 26 boats was for 83½ adult persons, and the total number occupying equalled 65 adults.

There is a little increase in the number of women and children living on Canal Boats, as compared with the numbers met with in previous years.

Five boats had fore-cabins, 4 of which were used as sleeping places.

The condition of the boats examined may be classified as follows :—23 good and 3 fair.

The sanitary state of 25 of the boats examined was satisfactory and the cabin and their appurtenances cleanly, 1 boat only needed painting.

The occupants appeared to be in good health.

Nature of Infringements.

Absence of Certificate	...	...	1
Overcrowding	...	...	1
Separation of Sexes	...	..	1
Painting	...	...	1
Total			<hr/> 4 <hr/>
Infringements remedied	...	...	4
Number still corresponding about		...	—
Number of legal proceedings	...	...	—

Remedial measures for contraventions have been obtained by issuing "blue notice" forms.

No case of Infectious Disease has been found on the boats.

ARTHUR T. HUBBLE,
Inspector under the Canal Boats Acts,
and Inspector of Nuisances.

January 1st, 1917.

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